#21/B GND 1/10/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Mosca, et al.

Serial No.:

09/267,456

Filed:

March 12, 1999

For:

Mesenchymal Stem Cells as Immunosuppressants

Group:

1644

Examiner:

Ewoldt

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated September 19, 2002, kindly amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 17-20 without prejudice and add the following claims:

21. A method of inhibiting a T-cell response to an antigen, comprising:

modifying mesenchymal stem cells to present said antigen by contacting mesenchymal stem cells with said antigen in vitro, wherein said mesenchymal stem cells do not produce co-stimulatory molecules in a sufficient amount to activate T- cells, whereby said mesenchymal stem cells process said antigen into an antigen fragment for presentation by said mesenchymal stem cells; and

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